

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

MBFR-04 SAJ-01 DODE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 H-03 ACDA-19 IO-13

OIC-04 CU-04 CIEP-02 COME-00 EB-11 STR-08 AGR-20

SCEM-02 DRC-01 /196 W

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R 141515Z SEP 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1580

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 3284

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4329

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12/31/79

TAGS: ETRD, HX, NATO

SUBJECT: CSCE: ECONOMIC COMMITTEE MEETING SEPTEMBER 13

REF: USNATO 4195

1. ECONOMIC COMMITTEE MET SEPTEMBER 13.

2. COMMITTEE APPROVED AC/127-WP/361 (COMMUNIST AID AND TRADE IN LDC'S) WITHOUT COMMENT FOR TRANSMITTAL TO COUNCIL. COMMITTEE APPROVED AC/127-WP/363 (POLAND: ECONOMIC REVIEW) FOR TRANSMITTAL TO COUNCIL, WITH SECRETARIAT TO INCORPORATE FOLLOWING BRITISH COMMENT ON PARAS 22-23: POLISH FOREIGN TRADE HAS SHIFTED MORE TO THE WEST UNDER THE GIEREK REGIME; POLISH BALANCE OF PAYMENTS MAY BECOME PROBLEM; POLISH INDEBTEDNESS IS INCREASING; INCREASES IN PURCHASING POWER AMONG WORKERS COULD LEAD TO PLANNED CHANGES IN IMPORTS.

3. CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE PROPOSED SUBMITTING TO COUNCIL AN INTERIM REPORT ON DEFENSE SPENDING OF THE USSR (AC/127-WP/360).  
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UK AND US QUESTIONED UTILITY OF AN INTERIM REPORT, SINCE ALL ISSUES STILL UNDER STUDY AND EXPERTS' MEETING AGAIN NEXT MONTH. IN ABSENCE OF CONSENSUS, CHAIRMAN DROPPED THE IDEA.

4. CHAIRMAN, WHO AT PREVIOUS MEETNG HAD SUGGESTED ANOTHER SYMPOSIUM OF ACADEMICS UNDER ECONOMIC COMMITTEE AUSPICES, PROPOSEDSOVIET OIL AS POSSIBLE TOPIC. CANADIAN REP OBJECTED TO THIS TOPIC ON GROUNDS THAT IT IS ALREADY UNDER STUDY IN OTHER FORA AND THAT STUDY WITHOUT CLASSIFIED INFORMATION WOULD BE MEANINGLESS. CHAIRMAN THEN ASKED MEMBERS TO AGREE IN PRINCIPLE TO HAVE A SYMPOSIUM AND TO DECIDE TOPIC LATER. UK OBJECTED, AND ASKED THAT MEMBERS SETTLE ON TOPIC BEFORE DECIDING TO HAVE SYMPOSIUM. CHAIRMAN ASKED MEMBERS TO THINK ABOUT FOLLOWING AS POSSIBLE TOPICS: SOVIET TECHNOLOGICAL GAP; DEVELOPMENT OF SIBERIA; IMPACT OF OIL ON EAST-WEST TRADE. HE WANTS SYMPOSIUM DURING JANUARY ACADEMIC RECESS.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: MISSION NEEDS PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 20 MEETING WASHINGTON COMMENTS ON AC/127-WP/358 (SOVIET INDEBTEDNESS), AS WELL AS ANY FURTHER PREFERENCES OF WASHINGTON EXPERTS ON DATES OF EXPERT MEETINGS PER REFTEL. MISSION WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE ANY THOUGHTS ON CHAIRMAN'S SYMPOSIUM PROPOSED PER PARA 4 ABOVE. MCAULIFFE

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